

Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force Safety Policy Statement

II MEF deploys and is employed as a MAGTF for contingency response up to major theater war. To guarantee our national security interests, we must be lethal to our enemies, reliable to our partners and allies, and successful across the spectrum of conflict. Our Safety Program's primary goal is preserving our greatest resources, namely, our Marines, Sailors, civilian employees, and family members. Secondarily, and just as

crucial, is equipment preservation. The safe execution of all missions is an indication of sound leadership and professionalism throughout the ranks. Tough, realistic training is important, but we will not take unnecessary risk by taking shortcuts. We must avoid providing our enemies any advantage due to complacency, lack of appropriate supervision, or a breakdown in individual or unit discipline.

Every Marine, Sailor, and civilian employee, regardless of rank or experience, is charged with stopping any event or action that poses an unacceptable safety risk. Sound judgement, solid leadership, and adherence to standards minimize the potential for mishaps. If you are being pressured to deviate from established guidelines while performing your job, it is crucial that you inform your chain of command. Exercise your moral courage and speak up. II MEF units will have procedures in place, to include easily identifiable safety suggestion boxes, to ensure personnel can submit safety-related observations and recommendations. Safety training and inspections are foundational in an effective safety program, and as such, require everyone's attention and attendance. The commitment to a strong safety culture does not end at the wire or when liberty sounds. Being ready and safe in all that we do is a mark of our professionalism.

Training for combat is inherently dangerous. Safety rules, regulations, and standard operating procedures are derived from operational experiences and lessons learned. New mishaps should not teach us old lessons. I expect each one of you to follow and enforce established directives. We will continue to move out with a sense of urgency, but we will not cut corners and endanger the mission, one another, or our equipment. We cannot eliminate all risks, but we will manage them with leadership and sound risk management principles in our daily routines, both on and off duty.

B. D. BEAUDREAULT

Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps II MEF Commanding General